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## Typification of *Batis maritima* L. (Bataceae)

Steve Cafferty and Alex K. Monro

Department of Botany, The Natural History Museum, London SW7 5BD,  
United Kingdom

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**ABSTRACT.** No valid type designation for *Batis maritima* L. currently exists. A neotype for this name is therefore selected here to fix the application of the name.

The family Bataceae comprises a single genus, *Batis* P. Browne, which itself includes only two species, the generitype *B. maritima*, typified here, and *B. argillicola* P. Royen, a recently described species from Papua, New Guinea. *Batis maritima* was originally described by Patrick Browne (1756: 356) with the polynomial, "*Batis maritima erecta, ramosa; foliolis succulentis, subcylindricis.*" Linnaeus (1759: 1289) also provided a generic-species description adequate to validate his binomial, together with a reference to Browne. He appears to have taken this specific epithet from Browne's polynomial, and it seems likely that his knowledge of the plant was based on Browne's description. During preparation of an account of Bataceae for *Flora Mesoamericana* no valid type designation for the name was found.

Kellogg (in Howard, 1988: 42) cited Browne's description as type, but this does not conform to Article 8.1 of the *International Code of Botanical Nomenclature* (Greuter et al., 1994), which states that the type of a name must be a single specimen or illustration. Although valid at the time it was published under the then-current *Code* (Greuter et al., 1988), Kellogg's designation is now invalid. There is no accompanying plate in Browne's work, and no associated material has been traced in any of the Linnaean herbaria. Material from the Sloane herbarium (BM), which might be considered original material since Browne in his work refers to Sloane's Catalogue, cannot be considered eligible for lectotypification since it was never studied by Linnaeus. Neither would it make a suitable neotype

due to the restricted access of the collection. No synonyms apart from that of Browne were cited by Linnaeus, and it appears, therefore, that there are no original elements for the name and that a neotype is required. The name *Batis maritima* is in current use and is taxonomically unambiguous. A neotype is therefore selected here to fix the application of the name in a way that maintains current usage.

***Batis maritima* L.**, Syst. Nat. (ed. 10) 2: 1289. 1759. TYPE: Jamaica. Middlesex: Clarendon Parish, near Tarentum farm, 10 ft., 3 Jan. 1960, C. D. Adams 6063 (neotype, selected here by A. K. Monro, UCWI).

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